

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Timothy Treichel and I am a resident of Bristol, CT. Currently, I am employed as an Applied Behavior Analyst Trainer by Area Cooperative Educational Services at The Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Northford, CT. I am writing to you today to show my support for section 23-29 of SB 1089 "An Act Concerning Mental Health Services."

I began working as an Applied Behavior Analyst Trainer in September 2006. Within these approximate nine years I have focused on teaching academic skills, independent life skills, and implementing behavior plans to numerous students with autism and developmental disabilities. The field of Applied Behavior Analysis has become a large part of my life. Currently, I am completing my final steps to obtain a Master's degree in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and to become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

Currently in the state of Connecticut, many parents are finding it extremely difficult to locate the proper ABA service for their children. Additionally, there are many individuals claiming to offer ABA services who are not qualified. This may unintentionally lead to unethical treatment of our residents. Many other states have already seen the importance of passing licensure for Behavior Analysts. Doing so will help families find services for their children that will be provided by only the most competent individuals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully request that you vote "Yes" to pass SB 1089 sections 23-29.

Timothy Treichel

Area Cooperative Educational Services